

Photo by Collete Sweeney



IS THE MISSION FALLING APART?

by Brian Doohan

Streets collapse into the rushing Mission Creek below. Jobs take flight, leaving working people few other options than shrinking welfare benefits or the increasingly murderous drug trade. Schools close. Libraries close. Police, fire and transit budgets suffer further cuts.

And the Mission, like most of the rest of San Francisco, indeed, most of urban America falls apart.

But as it does, a funny thing is happening. Ordinary citizens, increasingly frustrated with non-performing City services that they have to pay more and more for are taking matters into their own hands. For the most part these are positive, often startling developments. Especially within the past six months neighborhood and merchant organizations, fed up citizens and even disgruntled civil servants have been finding ways around the bureaucracy to keep things going.

It's new. Exciting. Dangerous. And perhaps the only thing that can keep neighborhoods like the Mission alive.

In just this last month, as reported here and in other articles in this issue:

- * Community outrage caused the closing of a 24th Street crack house and now follows the dealers as they hop from block to block...

- * Street patrols are formed to protect diverse elements of the Mission from the increasingly desperate and aggressive criminal element...

- * A parents' group protests an alleged coverup of police corruption in protecting drug dealers in the Bernal Dwellings projects...

- * Other neighborhood groups tackle a lethargic administration over

crime in a Folsom Street park and prostitution in the side streets off Mission...

- * And a unique collaboration of citizens' and tenants' advocates with representatives of the Bureau of Building Inspections, Mission police, the City and District Attorney's office is mounting pre-emptive strikes against the owners of Mission buildings identified as dens of crime and blight.

Nobody knows, of course, whether any or all of these efforts will stand the test of time. But if there is one thing in their favor... even an exceedingly negative factor... it is that there are no more illusions - Government has abdicated its responsibility to address pressing social ills as surely as the Soviet Communist Party has collapsed - with the difference that we in the Mission still have to pay more and more for less and less.

In a sense, the Mission resistance is still underground - ignored and derided by the powers that be if not yet overtly persecuted. Nonetheless it has raised crucial questions and already has achieved notable successes.

So, what's going on:

GOOD COP, BAD COP

"No cover-up of police corruption!" shouted members of Families Against Drugs (FAD) on August 22nd to the blue and gray walls of the Federal Building and to the Federal police guarding the entrance to the offices in which former Police Chief and Mayoral Candidate Frank Jordan was to appear in response to charges brought by fellow cop Alfred De La Cerda against other SFPD Narcotics officers.

As reported in the August News, police officer Alfred De La Cerda alleges other officers received pay offs by drug

dealers in the Bernal Dwellings on Army Street. He charges top police brass, including former Chief, now Mayoral candidate Frank Jordan with a cover-up of the affair, one of whose alleged participants, Captain Richard Cairns was recently "punished" for his role in a Castro Street police riot by being promoted to head the Taraval Police Station.

"We ask that an independent investigation be conducted by your office," wrote Companeros del Barrio, a FAD endorser, to State Attorney General Dan Lungren, whose representatives involuntarily hosted several dozen angry parents and their screaming, laughing kids after the group was forced to depart the plaza in front of the Federal Building without gaining admission to the Jordan trial.

Not willing to expose their children to arrest or violence, they were prodded across the street by Federal Police who demanded information on the rally sponsors. When told that same could be obtained from a Food Not Bombs table, the Feds replied "... we can't go there, they're on our list." A demonstrator graciously went to the table and procured the Families Against Drugs information release.

When the group was gone, the case against Jordan was postponed indefinitely... almost certainly until after the November election and possibly until after the December runoff.

"We don't have political objectives," insisted Bob Hernandez of FAD, but added "there are things in the files the

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13th ANNUAL FESTIVAL DE LAS AMÉRICAS

Hold it! Don't pack up those party clothes! The summer's not over yet! Not until the 13th annual Festival de las Americas on Sunday, September 15th. Stretching down 24th Street from South Van Ness to Bryant, this rollicking event is the traditional Mission end of summer bash as well as the celebration of independence for eight Latin American countries: Mexico, Honduras, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Chile, Brazil, Nicaragua and Guatemala.

Beginning at 11:00 a.m. Sunday morning, and ending at 6:00 p.m., the festival features four stages with non-stop entertainment, a low-rider car show, and special events for kids.

San Francisco's oldest and most exciting street fair is also probably the most savory with dozens of food booths offering a wide variety of Latin American delicacies ranging from *pupusas* and *tostados* to *ceviche* and *nacatamales*. Festival producers, the 24th Street Merchants Association and the Mission Economic and Cultural Association also promise a "mercado" full of booths featuring the best in handmade Latin American artifacts.

This year, a special children's area has been set aside, designed to entertain the very youngest family members with activities that will keep the kids amused and give mom and dad a rest. "Huggie's Diaper Derby" will amuse the crawler set set as they race for prizes, while older kids enjoy the Oakland Zoo's Mobile Zoo. Pony rides, a science fair and face painting will also be available for younger revellers.

Perhaps the most characteristic feature of the festival will be the hot Latin music performed throughout the day. Here's a rundown on what's going to be



where when:

At the 24th and Harrison stage, things start off at noon with local group "Devotion" followed at 1:30 by the 24th Street homeboy "Salsa 24." From 3:00 to 4:30 you can catch the San Francisco Debut of the "Garcia Brothers Latin Jazz Band" and then stick around for "Drums of Fire." Drums of Fire features well-known percussionist Michael Carabello and timbale player Jose Chepito Areas as well as former members of Santana.

Down the street at 24th and Hampshire, the noon to 1:30 p.m. slot is filled with the sounds of the "Black Hole

Gang" followed by "Nitecry" from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. Nitecry features Glen Walters and internationally-known vocalist John Payne. From 3:00 to 4:30 p.m., Latin rock band, "Midnight Blue" performs *A Tribute to Santana*. From 4:30 to 6:00 p.m., vocalist Lydia Pense is backed by "Cold Blood," featuring rock, R & B, and funk styles.

The 24th and Folsom (KIQI Radio) stage will feature "Los Kimbos" salsa band, mariachis, and several ballet folklorico groups from various parts of Mexico. There will be contests and surprises.

The 24th and Bryant (KSOL/Marcus Gutierrez Talent stage) will include rappers, DJs and dancers.

Contributing sponsors to the Festival de las Americas include Anheuser-Busch, Huggies, Mahatma Rice Growers Association and AT&T.

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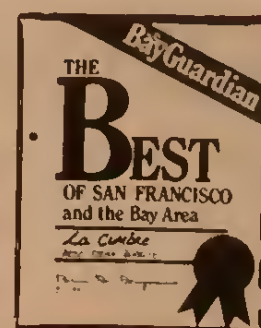
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public ought to know about."

Meanwhile, the affluent, conservative residents of the Taraval district are furious at the City for the assignment of Cairns as their Police Captain. "We're being dumped on," complain several Sunset neighborhood activists. "They didn't want him in the Mission and we don't want him either!"

ON THE HOME FRONT

An uneasy quiet has settled over 24th Street a month after a major crack cocaine bust at 1213-B York. Some neighbors declined to comment until after a promised September meeting with District Attorney Arlo Smith. Others say that smaller drug operations have sprung up at 23rd and York or at 24th and Treat.

The retaliatory violence and vandalism reported last month has not been sustained. However, CPOP officer

Further to the West gay men and lesbians fed up with mounting street violence have formed a patrol based on the model of the Guardian Angels.

It is perhaps no surprise that the emergence of these groups corresponds with the defunding of the police and other City agencies. But an even more interesting development is the initiative shown by rank and file City workers in widely spread offices that usually stay out of each other's way, at best, or compete with each other, wasting resources and duplicating efforts.

Just as the now-citywide C-POP program was not the brainchild of either former Chief Jordan or Mayor Agnos but of former Mission Captain Mike Hibel (who had to implement the program over the not-so-covert resistance of both) other rank and file City employees are forging a multi-departmental attack at some of the Mission's worst problems.



Lorraine Lombardo, injured in a drive-by shooting that may or may not have been related to her work on the case remains on disability leave.

Rumors that the drug suspects had been released on \$500 bail were denied by the District Attorney's office. "That's not true," said Phil Kearney who expects to bring the cases of the 14 adult indictes to trial in the fall. Kearney said that nine of the fourteen were still incarcerated on bail that had been reduced from \$500,000 to between \$200,000 and \$10,000 and added "I don't want to second guess the court" regarding the bail reductions.

Four blocks down Folsom Street, neighbors of the troubled Folsom Playground have a beef with the City Park and Recreation Department. Complaining that the sole recreation supervisor is outnumbered and outgunned by thugs who frequent the playground, they are demanding major policy changes including cleanup of the glass, nail and urine infested sandy area for small children and the presence of armed security personnel.

"Folsom Playground is not now perceived as a place where one brings his or her children," report neighbors angered at the takeover of the park by "regular" street drinkers.

Two other relatively new organizations are featured elsewhere in this issue.

"Drugs and prostitutes out of the Mission," is the war cry of one new community group which has been holding almost daily vigils in front of the Victoria Theatre on 16th Street.

The Save the Mission Coalition, also known as "Two Chicanos and a Norwegian," has established a presence in the 16th and Capp area, and has won the support and active participation of another Mayoral candidate, Tom Hsieh.

The case of one Remberto Sainez illustrates the benefits of this approach as well as the linkage of least two of their criminal adversaries... drug mobs and slumlords.

WILD LANDLORDS WITH BASEBALL BATS

Rosa Ruiz, Maria Ontiveros and Zenaida Sanchez, three elderly Spanish-speaking women, found themselves in the not-uncommon position of low income seniors, having to rent out tiny basement rooms from Sainez at 979 Alabama.

These illegal units contained multiple hazards, and came to the attention of the building inspectors who ordered them sealed off. Rather than pay compensation to the women, the thrifty Sainez decided to persuade them to disappear, according to their depositions in a subsequent lawsuit (#920281) filed in Superior Court.

On Sunday, June 13, 1990, according to Ontiveros' deposition, Sainez paid a visit with four other men who poked around, left and returned at three in the morning. "They continued shouting and drinking for about an hour," Ontiveros swore, while she, her children and the other tenants huddled in fear in their rooms.

The men moved into a vacant room and continued to vandalize the premises and abuse the women. "When I went out of my room, one of the men told me in Spanish that the landlords had paid them to stay in the premises and make noise and cause problems to force the tenants to move."

The women and children capitulated to the harassment, subsequently enduring a round of crashing with acquaintances and trying to find space in crowded

City shelters. But they got off easy compared to tenants of other Sainez buildings.

According to Myrna Melgar of St. Peter's Housing Committee who is representing tenants of a Sainez building on 22nd Street, the landlord is "a real thug" who uses baseball bats and guns to intimidate his largely undocumented tenants and, when one sued him and won a \$30,000 judgement, "he told a kid that he would kill his dad then beat the tenant up so badly he and his family had to flee to Mexico."

Sainez is represented by the law offices of Joseph Bravo, head of San Francisco's Apartment House Association, a landlord lobby group sponsoring the repeal of the City's new rent control ordinance. With the attorney in the matter on vacation, the office stated it was "not at liberty" to respond to the allegations.

But other legal actions tend to corroborate Sainez' history of abuse:

An elderly tenant of one of his Outer Mission buildings fell down a rotten stairway and, while unable to work, Sainez evicted him for \$4,000 advance rent and forced he and his wife into the streets (#918590).

In defiance of the San Francisco rent control laws, he raised rents on illegally subdivided rooms from \$260 to \$450 after three months tenancy on one Potrero Street building and from \$600 to \$1,000 on a larger unit and, when tenants protested, hauled out their toilet, stove and shower (#920226).

Another legal tussle arises out of a suspicious agreement with an elderly woman on Mississippi Street to purchase her home for \$50,000 with the provision that she remain a tenant for the rest of her life - an exceedingly risky proposition (#891249).

And, according to Melgar, Sainez, a resident of 1318 York Street right by last month's busted crack house, has hired people involved in the 24th Street and/or Internal Dwellings drug trade as "enforcers", one of whom has just recently been arrested and appears to have been welcomed back by his old employer.

These abuses have not escaped the

attention of Mission Police Station, the City and District Attorney and the BBI. At the request of five tenants of 2867 22nd, a restraining order has been issued, preventing Sainez from harassing them. The co-operation between these departments drawing the coils of the law tighter and tighter around the slumlord's throat.

"Sainez has a long history of landlord-tenant problems," says Officer Joanne Welsh (Mission Station). "He allegedly hires people to threaten his tenants and we have witnesses against these people."

Hugh Donohue of the D.A.'s office also is involved. "Both the City and District Attorneys are capable of instituting civil actions. Police usually refer criminal activity to the District Attorney and hazardous conditions to the City Attorney." As a means of increasing the efficiency of this effort, each police station has designated an Abatement Officer who meets monthly with representatives from the City and District attorney. Folks like Sainez, who have come to the attention to both, are most likely to be lowered into the meat grinder - hopefully before a repetition of the Woodward Street incident in which landlord Cesar Zeladon resorted to murder to achieve his financial objectives.

Donohue noted the pressure being put on Saxe Realty, managers of 1312B York to clean up the premises or face civil action. An eviction action has reportedly been instituted against the remaining occupants of the crack house.

THE OUTLOOK - PERIL AND PROMISE

These and other developments in the Mission are a perverse fulfillment of the "thousand points of light" theory in which some community element are forced to shoulder the burdens of diminishing or disappeared government agencies while other simply go under.

At first, inexperience and lack of resources mean these small groups must necessarily respond on a neighborhood or special interest group which could lead to problems if they define their ob-



Photo by Jason Albertson

1318 York, Home of Remberto Sainez

jectives as being to help only gays, only children, only Latinos, only 24th Street merchants etc.

Mitchell Salazar of Real Alternative Program is concerned that minority youth may be scapegoated without the option of positive alternatives. RAP works with Mission kids in such schools as Mission High and James Lick to offer alternatives to drugs and guns. "If the 12, 13 and 14 years olds are not grabbed, we're going to have hell on our hands," he warns.

Admitting that the Mission has more than its share of vagrants, drugs, prostitutes and violence, he is nonetheless worried about the increasing "lock-em-up" attitude taken by some as the only way of dealing with minority youth. "Incarceration doesn't rehabilitate. It's a cycle - they go back, they come out, they go back."

Fortunately, there seems to be a sub-

stantial degree of political sophistication among the new activist groups together with the opportunity to coordinate resources through umbrella groups like the Mission task force will work against the tendency of the Mission to dissolve into warring tribes.

And with the Mission's diverse population, perhaps the most interesting development is the proposed International Drug Conference, to be held at Mission High School on September 28th beginning 10 AM with speakers such as Mexico's Cuauhtemoc Cardenas whom many feel to have been the legally elected President of that nation.

With a clarity of purpose and a refusal to be distracted by scapegoats, the Mission - with other neighborhoods from the City to the world - may well seize those "thousand points of light" and use them to turn up the heat on unresponsive leaders. It's something to think about.

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SAVE THE MISSION

by Jonathan Comisar

When Maria Martinez, Robert and Anita Corea stretch their imaginations, they see the Mission as a different place. The streets are clean, safe, free of drug use and prostitution. Parents feel assured that their neighborhood is a healthy environment for their children. And the city points with pride to the Mission's wealth of artistic talent and cultural diversity - Latino, Asian, black and white together.

To make this vision a reality, Martinez and the Coreas have formed the Save the Mission Coalition. "We don't consider (the Mission neighborhood) as a dumping ground," said Martinez, who is fed up with dirty sidewalks "full of feces and urine".

"The city has saturated this area with all its problems and ills," said Robert Corea, citing the large concentrations of drug use and prostitution in this district. Corea traces the current problems to rehabilitation of the Tenderloin-Fillmore area five years ago. With the closing of low income hotels and police crack-downs in that area, prostitution and other social problems relocated to the Mission, said Corea.

The "real culprit" of the Mission's problems are the "city's failed policies", said Corea. And the organization's main objective is to convince the city ad-

ministration that it must share the responsibility of rehabilitating the Mission. For Martinez and the Coreas, city responsibility translates into funding for street cleaning, the development of a policy to deal with prostitution, and rehabilitation programs for prostitutes and drug addicts. Calling the Mission a "convenient dumping area" for San Francisco's social maladies, Robert Corea feels that other districts should share the burden. He suggested making low income hotels in other parts of the city (such as the St. Francis) accessible to tenants in order to lessen the overflow into the Mission.

The month-old Coalition meets every weekday noon in the 16th Street/Mission area. They carry signs and talk to passersby about the organization. Presently the Coalition only consists of the three founders, but 30 people have expressed interest in becoming involved, said Martinez.

Another focus of the Coalition is preserving the district's arts scene, which they feel is threatened. Robert Corea, manager of the Victoria Theater at 16th and Capp, said that the city "deems the Mission an unattractive place for the arts" and therefore doesn't provide necessary funding. Performance groups such as Ethnic Dance Festival, Jazz in the City, the Mime Troupe and Theater Flamenco were encouraged to leave the Mission because of the lack of financial



Photo by Jason Albertson

(L to R) Robert Corea, Maria Martinez and Tom Hsieh

support, said Corea.

"The Mission was a family-oriented place," said Corea... that provided an atmosphere for families, artists and diversity of cultures. "It goes sour when the ills of society are heaped on that environment," he said.

By doing nothing about dirty streets, prostitution and drug use," said Martinez, "we're not setting a good example for our children." Martinez recalls speaking with a mother and her 7 year old son who, during a weekday demonstra-

tion, said "Yeah, they pee on the sidewalks. I don't like it."

Martinez said she raised the Coalition's issues at a Mission Task Force meeting at which Mayor Agnos was present. She was told that a Task Force committee would study the matter. According to Martinez, the Mayor only recorded information and did not respond to her. We have to help the Mayor to come up with solutions to the problems, said Martinez.



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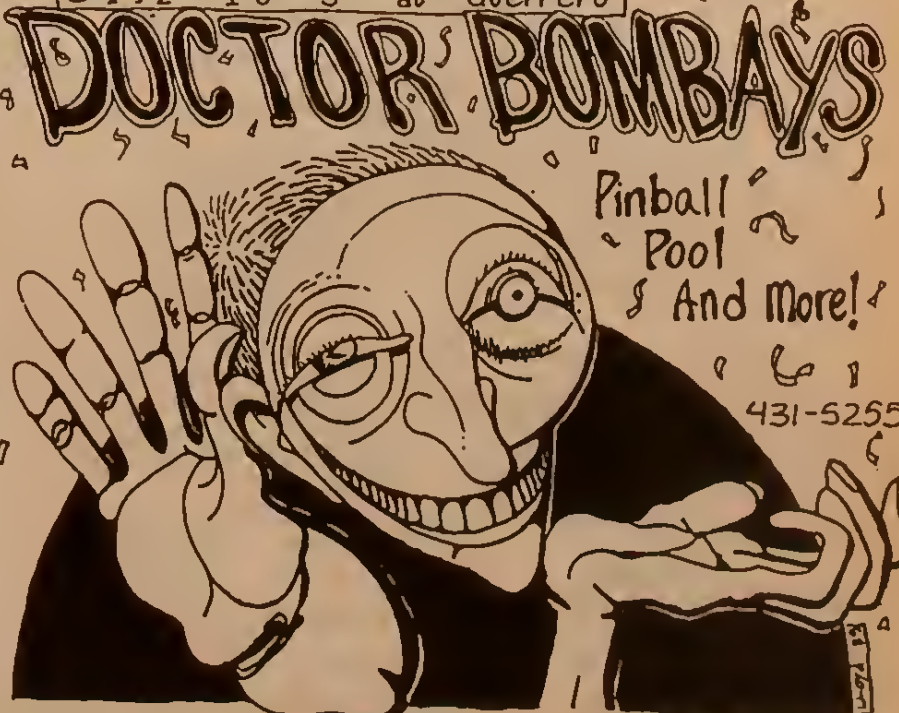
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STREET PATROL

by Sara Catania

On every given Friday or Saturday night you'll see them marching with firm intent through some of the toughest areas in the Castro and North Mission. Clad in fuschia berets, whistles, black leather motorcycle jackets and identifying t-shirts, they line up in pairs like schoolchildren on a field trip. But this is no carefree outing. This is Street Patrol.

Originally formed over a year ago as a result of a study group of Queer Nation, concerned with the alarming amount of violence against gays, Street Patrol walks the streets starting at midnight on weekends, "watching for queer bashings and other forms of harassment and violence," according to patroller Adam Z.

The moon is one night shy of full on this particular Saturday. Midnight approaches as pink-bereted patrollers meet and greet at the Rolling Pin doughnut shop at 18th and Castro. Mark Pritchard takes care of paperwork for same and assigns each participant a title.

"The titles stay the same, but we rotate who gets which one," explains patroller Larry Sandal. Most responsibility falls on the person assigned the role of hostess. She walks at the front of the formation and determines what route will be taken, and at what pace. Other titles include 911 runner, girlfriend, ex-girlfriend, control queen, and fashion cop.

All positions satisfactorily assigned, the eight patrollers step outside for a brisk walk: no weapons, drugs, alcohol or personal vendettas allowed. Business taken care of, the patrol begins. The hostess heads north up Castro.

At 18th and Noe, patrollers "face off" across the street from the 7-11, one of the few places in the area selling liquor late at night. "People come down from the Mission to buy alcohol, we come up from the Castro to meet them and make sure things stay under control," explains Sandal. He says that because the corner is one of the Castro's hot spots where violence is likely to occur, the patrol will pass by several times during the course of the night.

By the end of the evening the beat will have covered a wide swath, extending west

to the Eureka Diamond, east to Church and Dolores, south to 20th Street and north to Davies Medical Center. Walking by a bar on 18th Street, patrollers get thumbs up from a man leaning against the doorframe. "way to go, street patrol!" A jeep drives by and a woman yells, "keep up the good work, patrollers."

Not only are the patrollers appreciated, their work seems to be effective. Street Patrol is not shy in claiming some credit for a significant drop in hate crimes against gays in the past year, as reported by Community United Against Violence (CUAV).

The tone is light and playful banter abounds as patrollers stop to gawk at funky shoes in the windows of the new NaNa on Castro. But even while window shopping, patrollers mean business. Their professionalism bespeaks an awareness of their mission and a confidence in their ability to achieve it.

According to Adam Z, Street Patrol's efficiency came about after they contacted Chris Ford, San Francisco Chapter Leader of the Guardian Angels. Ford led the patrollers in a six-month training program on non-violent organized street patrol, advising on everything from legal rights and citizens' arrests, on how to physically detain without injury, and how to effectively deal with specific street situations.

Equipped with Ford's training, the Street Patrol now runs its own training every Friday evening from 6 - 8 PM in Dolores Park with Ford acting as occasional consultant. "It's appalling, the violence being dumped on the gay community like toxic waste," says Ford, who has trained similar groups in Seattle and New York.

Some patrollers, like Sunah Cherwin, would like to see a greater part of the Mission covered. Occasionally the patrol has taken on a second beat, up Valencia to 26th Street and back down Mission. "About half of us in the patrol are women. We'd like to see the women's area getting covered too," says Cherwin. But she acknowledges that, because patrolling is all-volunteer and potentially risky, getting together enough people to form a second eight-person unit for the

Photo by Jason Albertson



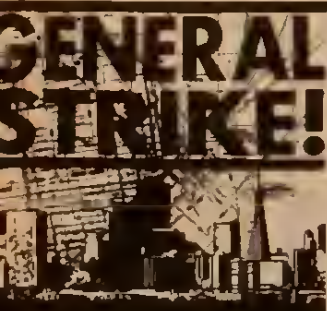
Mission has been tough.

"We rely entirely on contributions and community support so we have to do without things like walkie-talkies that would make our job easier and safer."

Although not affiliated with any government body, Street patrol's statement of purpose makes it clear that their intent precludes competition with the police. "Street Patrol is not out to en-

force the law or clean up the streets, nor are we claiming the Castro as 'our turf'. Rather, Street Patrol intends to make the Castro and Mission safer places where all queer people can hang out without being targeted for violent attack.

Sara Catania is a San Francisco freelance writer.



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MISSION TASKFORCE UPDATE

by Christian Ettinger

In response to a July 30 deadline set down by the Mission Task Force, Supervisor Jim Gonzales has committed himself to raising the money for the long delayed printing of the Spanish language tenants' rights handbook anyway he can.

Angered by the deadline set forth by the Taskforce, Gonzales reminded the community, "It was my resolution that made the Taskforce a reality. By setting me a deadline, they're setting themselves for defeat." He went on to say that it takes time for taskforces to achieve anything concrete, that taskforce members needed to be patient. "It takes six months to a year before a taskforce achieves anything concrete." He pointed out that it took three years before the 24th Street Revitalization Committee achieved anything concrete like the steam clean service. He said that working on a taskforce is a four year commitment.

The handbook was originally proposed by Gonzales four years ago and the responsibility of publishing it was given to the Human Rights Commission, but the Commission failed to act. On May 20th of this year, the Supervisor said that the taskforce needed to accomplish something concrete and do it quickly or else lose the confidence of the community.

Gonzales said his office was not responsible for the delay in the printing and he is still waiting for a sample copy from Gustavo Raygoza at St. Peter's Housing. As for funding the printing, Gonzales has many choices including his own campaign fund, his legislative fund and other city sources.

So for this handbook to finally get printed, Raygoza must get a sample of the handbook to Gonzales and then Gonzales will take the handbook to city printing to find how much it will cost to print 5 to 10 thousand copies.

After the cost is tabulated, Gonzales has said that he might tap into his legislative fund, money given to Supervisor by the City for special projects or he might even tap into his campaign fund, money he would use for re-election.

According to Gustavo Raygoza of St. Peter's Housing, much of the delay in printing the handbook has come from "all these different people editing, authorizing and re-editing the handbook. One person looks at the handbook and adds something and another person looks at the handbook and takes something off." All this fiddling with the handbook has made it very difficult to get out a finished product.

Once this handbook is printed, Latino tenants will have a means of defending themselves from unscrupulous landlords.



Editor:

Thank you for giving me space to respond to Robert Cole's letter on behalf of the Sycamore Neighbors Group.

I thought, Robert, that after we had spoken on the phone and you presented the very same letter to the Mayor's Task Force on the Mission (MTFM) at its meeting on July 22, 1991, that you would discontinue disseminating factual ERRORS. For "shiny sidewalks, little flags and palm trees", you must credit M.E.D.A. (Mission Economic Development Association), these programs are part of their Mission revitalization program.

We share your concern that the MTFM remain an independent force accountable to the Mission community. In any community, particularly one as diverse as the Mission, there are many solutions, some conflicting, to extant problems. To you and others on the outside, it may seem that the MTFM and its six committees are piddling around, but those who are working away know that we have to do more than come up with facile solutions which may please one segment while alienating others.

Essential to developing the kinds of solutions that are called for is the building of Trust, the willingness to replace self-serving actions for those that serve the larger good and the creation of consensus. We are succeeding in doing this although this may not be apparent to you, Robert - you have chosen to stand on the sidelines and carp.

It may be that the various committees will recommend solutions such as you propose, or they may come up with something else. I don't know because, contrary to what you say, the MTFM belongs to the people and the solutions will come from them through their committees. You and other members of the Sycamore Neighbors Group can partake in defining the problems in developing the solutions.

The MTFM committees are open to all people in the Mission District. It is up to you and all other Mission residents to assure that the MTFM continues to belong to the people. Don't just stand there, Robert, COME ON IN.

Hilda Bernstein, Chair, MTFM

Editor:

I am writing to you because I feel compelled to expose yet another example of the second class treatment that the Mission seems to get from the San Francisco Recreation Department.

For the last ten years, Ron Exley and

Ben Vigil from the Police Athletic League, Sonny and Ernie Marson from ABA and Golden Gloves, Begie Castillo from M&M Youth Boxing and others have been trying to get a youth boxing program started in the Mission. I have been trying to assist them for about four months.

The aforementioned people and organizations have been offering their services to the S.F. Recreation Department free! They are highly qualified people who have their own liability insurance and their own instructors and equipment. All they need is a space for a gym.

Unfortunately, the Recreation Department has seen fit to ignore their requests. The following are some quotes from S.F. Recreation Department officials who have been turning away free services:

"We don't need a boxing program in the Mission. We already have one in Hunter's Point and one in Ocean view. the Mission kids can travel." (By armored bus?) Nan Neal - Assistant Superintendent of Recreation - Community Relations, 4/16/91 at a neighborhood meeting at Mission Recreation Center.

"Boxing is not safe and presents a significant civil liability exposure problem for the S.F. Recreation Department." Mary Burns - General Manager of Parks and Recreation, 8/14/91 at a joint meeting of the Mission Task Force at Arriba Juntos.

Mary Burns has yet to explain why it is safe to have a boxing program in Hunter's Point or Oceanview, but not in the Mission.

Youth boxing may be the only organized activity that could attract participation by many of our young men who for lack of any peer pressure or alternatives seem to be engaged in other less socially acceptable activities. This is an opportunity for valuable free services that should not go to waste.

Andrew L. Solow

Editor:

I wish someone would clue the 24th Street Preacher" that his loud, annoying harangues are doing more harm than good. Remind him that Jesus' message was one of peace and goodwill, not anger and violence.

Sometimes he frightens me; emerging from BART I hear the yelling and I think there is a fight or a riot; then I remember - Oh yes. It's only the "christian".

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NEIGHBORS O.K. PLAN FOR NEW COP STATION

by Christian Ettinger

The 17th and Valencia Coalition has removed the roadblocks for the Police Department's purchase of the Pepsi-Cola factory land on the corner of the 17th and Valencia. The Police plan to use the majority of the land to build the new Mission Police Station, which will include a juvenile division for juvenile victims of crimes, and sell off parcels of land to the Police Athletic League and the Mission Housing Development Corporation. The Coalition gave their okay to the Police Department project after the architects agreed to make changes in the design of the building.

The existing Mission Police Station located at 1240 Valencia near 23rd Street is too small for the amount of Police officers that patrol the area. Because of the district's high crime, many in the community feel the Police need a larger, more modern facility closer to the district's trouble spot, Mission and 16th. The current station is outdated, in need of repair, lacks adequate locker and restroom facilities and has parking for only a third of the assigned police vehicles.

Original plans for the proposed station at the Pepsi Cola plant were rejected by the coalition because it would have been an eyesore for local residents. "The original design was patterned after the new station built in Western Addition, The Northern Station, which is two story cube with no windows," said Steve Welch, co-chairman of the group. The other Co-chairman of the group, Bob Brisbane, said the design made the new station look like an intimidating fort.

The new designs for the station, which included a Mission-California style design with lots of windows, skylights inside the building, more open space, 5 more visitor parking spots and trees lining the sidewalks outside the station and the parking lot inside the station coupled with project director Tom Sottemeir giving serious consideration of opening up the parking lot for neighborhood use, appeased the neighborhood group and they voted unanimously to permit the Police Department to buy the

land.

According to Welch, the coalition could have appealed the project and would have, in effect, killed the whole deal for the police, PAL and Mission Housing because Pepsi is only giving the Police Department a month to close the deal and any appeals would have prevented the police from closing it in time. The Coalition opted not to appeal because they agreed on the need for a new station and felt the police project's director, Captain Tom Sottemeir, made a concerted effort to address their concerns.

The coalition still has many reservations about the project. One of these is parking; even though the new design offers additional parking for visitors, coalition members feel this is not enough. They feel the new station will bring more traffic and parking problems to an already congested area.

Moreover, they have problems with Mission Housing because of the non-profit's inability to commit to senior housing. Mary Ann Dillon of Mission Housing, said the group plans to use the property for the construction of 50 units of supportive care senior housing if they can get the money from the Federal Housing and Urban Development Agency. Otherwise, Mission Housing will likely commit to low income family housing, which members of the coalition strongly oppose, because families generally have a greater impact on communities than seniors.

Lastly, the coalition has problems with the P.A.L. converting an existing warehouse on the 17th Street side of the property into a gym. Coalition members are worried about the gym bringing still more traffic congestion and parking problems to the area. Pepsi-Cola is planning, as part of the total land deal with the Police Department, to buy a gym floor for the warehouse. But, at the meeting between the coalition and Sottemeir, Sottemeir assured the group that "the site was to be used for administrative services, not for athletics". Ron Exley, Executive Director of P.A.L. confirmed the group does plan to turn the warehouse into a gym.

1929 - 1991



Jack Jaques, coproprietor of the Stat Station, died August 11th as a result of heart failure. Jack will be greatly missed by his many friends, 200 of whom showed up at a farewell tribute.

To those customers of the Stat Station who came to admire the man for his imperturbable congeniality, his death is felt as a great loss. Jack's easy going

generosity with his time and talents averted disaster for more than one deadline-bedeveled editor or graphic artist.

It was always reassuring to know that, no matter how hectic or tense the circumstances, Jack would approach things with calmness and amiability that made life a little easier all around. Such a man is rare.



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A MISSION WALK WITH TOM HSIEH

by Brian Doohan

"The time is with the month of winter solstice... When the change is due to fall..." (Syd Barret, "Chapter 24")

A drunken man at Sycamore and Mission, holding a dog on a leash with one hand and brandishing a 40 ounce bottle of Olde English fixes a bleary stare at candidate Hsieh, urging his animal to bite off a little bit of political real estate. But it's a sunny Tuesday and the dog, a coal-black cocker spaniel, looks up at the candidate and wags its tail. And so Hsieh, in his conservative dark suit and bow tie, holding a sign damning the drug dealers and prostitutes that proliferate in places like this, moves on with his party, unbowed and unbitten.

"When we contacted the Supervisors about our campaign, Sup. Hsieh was the only one who would come out and walk with us," says Maria Martinez, a former aide to Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi who organized the daily marches as "Two Chicanas and A Norwegian" (aka Save The Mission, see related article).

It's certainly a contradiction that the only member of the Board willing to walk the Mission's mean streets is its most conservative member, a man who is described, even by allies, as "formal", even "stiff". But the Hsieh campaign is a study in contradictions.

Earlier that morning, the candidate met with several representatives of the San Francisco Neighborhood Newspaper Association (SFNNA) to discuss his campaign at which he portrayed himself a "newcomer" challenging the establishment. "There are no other minority candidates, no outsiders," he declared, disdaining to conceal the thick accent some political experts believe will cause people not to vote for him.

But candidate Hsieh, despite this and polls showing him in fourth or fifth place, exhibits a quiet, almost serene confidence. A native of Beijing, Hsieh arrived in San Francisco forty years ago with \$400 and his guitar. Working his way through Berkeley, he became an architect. Appointed to the Arts Commission by then-Mayor Joe Alioto in 1970 and the Police Commission in 1984, he

was appointed by Dianne Feinstein to the Board of Supervisors two years later.

At City Hall, he has followed in the conservative tradition of Quentin Kopp and John Barbagelata, emphasizing a financial responsibility that brought him into frequent contact with Agnos.

"We are still a very sick city," he told the SFNNA editors.

He ticks off some of the problems - an endangered municipal bond rating which would mean higher interest expenses, inconsistent Civil Service audits, City Departments overstaffed with bureaucrats who are overpaid and an overall antagonistic climate that he blames on the Mayor's personality. Agnos is "playing games because he doesn't like certain groups," the candidate believes, citing the police, firefighters and, most recently, children's advocates who have taken to the ballot in frustration over the budget.

He has also opposed the "back-room politics" behind the Mission Bay deal that would fill the swampy Southern Pacific property with offices and luxury housing. As an architect, he also finds the project undistinguished.

"This City has too many warlords," Hsieh sums up. "A real Mayor should not pit groups one against each other, but should be a leader."

Some of Hsieh's concept of leadership veer towards the interestingly surreal. The homeless, he says, can be rehabilitated or driven out of police pick them up and take them in to be forcibly bathed and shaven. He believes that many remain dirty and disheveled as a means of offending others and that, when they "find that we are on their tail, they will feel another city will be better for their lifestyle."

Even odder, for such a conservative candidate, is Hsieh's empathy for San Francisco's other minority communities, exemplified by his support of Jesse Jackson's campaigns. He challenges the notion that minorities will continue to take orders from more traditionally liberal white politicians.

"We are underrepresented on commissions and united by the glass ceiling," he says, referring to the subtle discrimination existing at the higher levels of

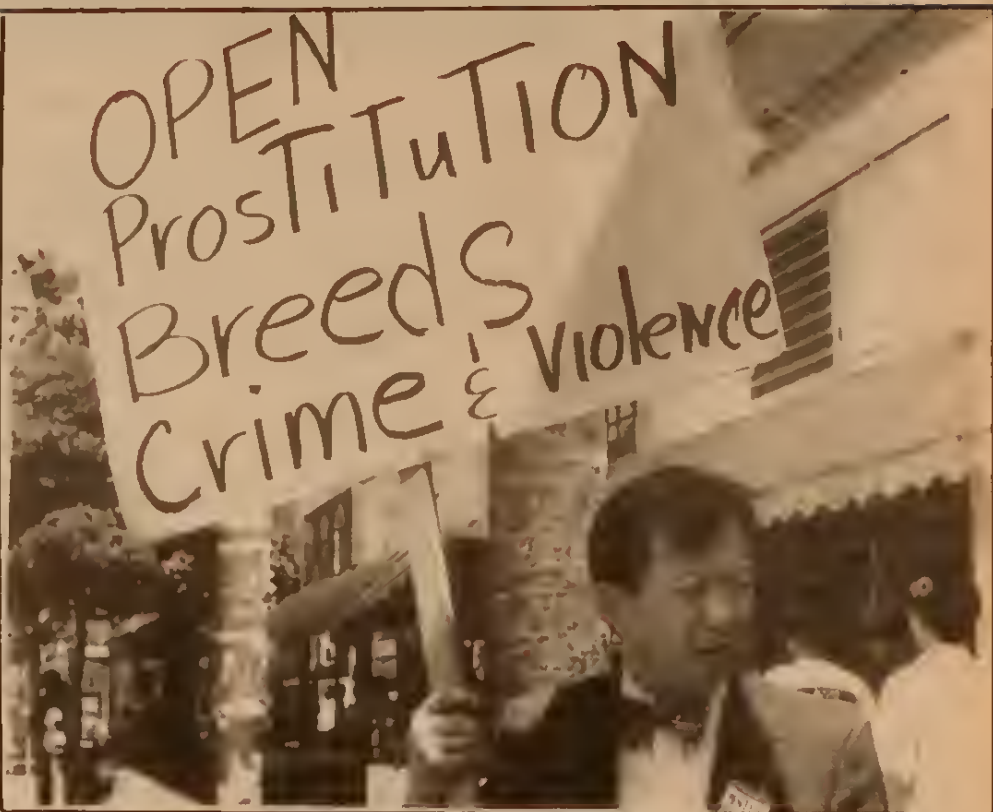


Photo by Jason Albertson

Tom Hsieh on a Mission in the Mission

business and politics. His campaign manager, Jerry Austin, also worked for Jackson and if he could engineer an appearance and endorsement, an awful lot of black, brown, red and even white people may start rethinking their priorities.

But even among the Asian community, support for Hsieh is far from unanimous. He is opposed by the powerful Rose Pak (who compared him to a blotch of vomit contributed by another supervisor who'd apparently had one too many at a City Hall fundraiser) and Deputy Mayor James Ho, whom he dismisses as an Agnos "flunky".

He has been able to raise enough money to finance a credible campaign, and has stood back from the mudslinging

that has characterized the campaigns of the other four candidates. He is personally liked, even by political adversaries, and though his conservative views may not go over well in neighborhoods like the Mission, his personal and financial integrity should count for something, as should his willingness to get out and walk the streets with groups like Save The Mission, finding out for himself what kind of problems exist here.

And if the campaign is as dirty as predicted, and Hsieh can pull off an "October surprise" with Jesse Jackson at, say, Candlestick Park the last may indeed be first when the voters, in the December runoff total up who's been naughty and who's been nice.

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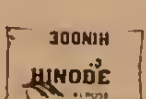
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NEIGHBORHOOD BEAT

BO-CHI PONG SCULPTURES



Muddy Waters Coffee House (521 Valencia) - fast becoming a showcase for young Mission artists - is currently featuring sculptures by Eurasian artist Bo-Chi Pong. Having recently relocated to San Francisco from Paris, Pong has had numerous exhibits in Switzerland and France and this show marks her U.S. debut.

Like the figures in Maurice Sendak's "Where the Wild Things Are", Pong's dolls are naively ominous. Their Goyaesque faces and grotesquely exaggerated body parts are brightly painted in a neo-primitivism style that gives them a nightmarish appeal.

The seventeen pieces range from 3 feet tall (the gargantuan candle clutching ogre "Aldous Odious") to 6 inches (an intricately patterned salamander entitled "Messenger from Woolloomooloo"). Scrap metal, colored glass, bottle caps and other shards of street junk are transformed into ornate necklaces, earrings and bracelets that festoon virtually every doll.

Also hanging in the same show (which is up through September 15th) are photos on Haiti by the award winning Fuminori Sato and paintings/sculptures by Chris Veit.

Pat Ryan

VALENCIA FLOODED



Photo by: MPR Howard

by M. P. R. Howard

A 120 year old water main ruptured in the early morning hours of Saturday, August 17th.

Residents of Valencia Street awoke to a river of water from a break in a major feeder line in the 400 block between 15th and 16th Streets. In the three hours it took to get the water shut off and pumped out of the hole in front of 447 Valencia, hundreds of thousands of dollars in damage was caused. Service was dis-

rupted to several hundred residents and businesses in the Mission, Haight and Fillmore Districts.

Traffic on Mission and Valencia Streets was also affected for most of the day. Service to the affected areas was restored by Sunday.

It's unknown, at this time, as to when the hundreds of cubic feet of sand that washed out of the area of the break will be replaced and that portion of Valencia Street stabilized.

THE LONGEST WAIT

Overcrowding at the San Francisco General waiting room may be jeopard-

izing the health of some patients who, despairing of ever seeing a doctor, give

p and crawl away to find a warm dark place to die.

A July study of 700 emergency room patients at SFGH found that waits to see a doctor averaged three hours and ranged to as high as 17 hours. The 15% who left without seeing a doctor did so after an average 3 1/2 hour wait and most said their reason for leaving was that "the wait was just too long".

The co-sponsor of the study, Dr. Andrew Bindman, observed that poverty, lack of medical insurance and the cut-back or closure of facilities is causing sick people who would otherwise be treated at a clinic or doctor's office to flock to

emergency rooms as the medical care facilities of last resort.

The problem is a nationwide one, Bindman said. "As long as tens of millions of Americans remain uninsured or inadequately insured and have limited access to primary care, long queues and their consequences will continue to be features of public hospital emergency departments."

The study was conducted before the City budget decision to defund the Mount Zion crisis clinic, which will have the effect of further overcrowding SFGH's emergency room with severely mentally ill patients.

LOCAL NOTABLES

Kim Fowler, a 25th Street resident, Arts Commissioner and former Executive Director of Theater Artaud has been appointed Co-ordinator of the Neighborhood Beautification Fund. The Fund works with neighborhoods and business groups on tree plantings, graffiti removal and other such efforts, and Ms. Fowler will be available to discuss these after Sept. 16th at 554-7979.

The News and the Mission com-

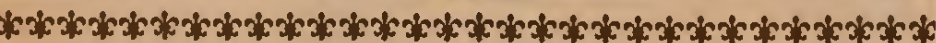
munity extend our sympathies and get well wishes to Lisa Hamburger of Mission Housing Development Corporation who is recovering from an accident at John Muir Hospital in Walnut Creek. Those who have relied on Lisa for information on the Mayor's Task Force should direct inquiries to Efrén Roman at 864-6432, and cards and other good wishes can be sent c/o MHDC at 1656 15th Street.

CHEAPSKATE



All you old hippies still abiding in the Mission might want to dust off your puka shells, try to cram yourselves into those old tie dyes and bellbottoms and boogie over to the Kennel Club at 628 Divisadero on Tuesday, September 17 for the funeral bash for Brother Ed Langdon, lighting artist extraordinaire.

Ed's light shone on innumerable local and international performers from the psychedelic to the punk era and friends, including Lady Trash, Kathy Peck and Ginger Coyote will be giving him a fine old San Francisco sendoff party - free, the way Ed would have wanted it.



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NEW COLLEGE CELEBRATES 20 YEARS



As Dolores Huerta, UFW organizer and recipient of an Honorary Doctoral degree at this June's Humanities Program Graduation, led the chant "Si se puede", New College ended its 19th year. On September 3, registration will begin for the twentieth year in this unique school integrating education and social change.

The anniversary seems all the more amazing in that, as recently as 1986, a large For Sale sign hung on the front of the vacant 777 Valencia Street building. Now, not only has that building been reopened but the college has expanded into the former Intersection building across the street at 766 Valencia.

Many changes are being undertaken to transform this building for educational purposes, including renovating the former theater as an art studio for classes taught by Juana Alicia and Doug Minkler. These political artists are now faculty members in the Arts and Social Change Program which includes visual arts, video and performance.

The Humanities Program, which also offers a BA degree focusing on critical cultural analysis in anthropology, psychology, sport and society, sexuality and gender, Jazz, politics, health, Latin American studies and writing and literature occupies the rest of the building.

The 777 Valencia Street building is the home of the Graduate Program in Psychology which offers MA degree in

Social-Clinical and Feminist Psychology. A major undertaking for the program this year will be the opening of a low cost counseling clinic at 777 Valencia. The Law School, Poetics Program and Weekend College are housed in the landmark building at 50 Fell Street in the Civic Center.

In addition to its own programs open to the public, New College has always tried to make itself available to progressive political and community groups. In the past, exciting programs have been held at the school by organizations ranging from Media Alliance to the Irish Women's History Collective sponsored by Modern Times.

These events have brought to the Mission speakers that include Bernadette Devlin, Alice Walker and Alexander Cockburn. The College also played an important role this year during the Gulf War hosting anti-war planning meetings, legal support for arrested demonstrators and many important teach-ins on the variety of political, economic and social issues which the war concretized.

The Twentieth Anniversary will be celebrated in a variety of ways throughout the year. Events, lectures and parties are in the planning stage and many will be open to the public. For more information on New College and any of the events happening there please call 626-1694.

A 16th St. MOMENT



by Al

SHE IS AN ASIAN WOMAN. She is beautiful. The most beautiful Asian woman I have ever seen. And — she is staring at me. Smiling. She gets up from her table at the Picaro Cafe and walks over to me. "Are you David? From the Bay Reporter Newspaper?"

"No," I tell her. I am Al, from the North Mission News Newspaper."

"Wrong person. Wrong newspaper. I have to interview David for Channel 5 News."

I ask her: "How about me interviewing you, about your interview?"

She walks out the cafe door. I follow her. Outside there is a cameraman and she starts talking to a guy who looks like Mr. Clean. The camera rolls. A guy with a limp hobbles over to the interview.

"I need some motherfucking money now!" he tells the three of them. "I mean — I need it, right now. I am hurting, man. Really hurting."

"Look — I have no money to give you now. And now I am working for my money."

I guess the forceful statement of her working for her money stopped the beggar. He limped back over to where I was standing.

"You know those newspeople make thousands of \$. Thousands! And they will not give me one motherfucking dime. Not one motherfucking dime."

He tells me that he is going to wack

the camera with his cane. He's pissed off. I tell him to go for it and I'll be his back-up.

He limps over to the interview. The camera rolls.

"I told you I need the money now. I am hurting. really hurting. I need some motherfucking\$. Now! Look."

He rolls up his pant leg. Shows them a stem like a twig that once was a leg. This shocks the camera man and he quickly hands the beggar two or three dollars. The man limps away.

My big story about a beggar wacking a Channel 5 TV camera leaves with him. Shit, I should have given the beggar five bucks to wack the TV camera. Vic, my editor, always tells me I have to write something that happens in the Mission. Sweet Jesus — I missed my big moment in the spotlight where the darkness meets the dark.

Mrs. Channel 5 smiles at me.

My heart goes thump — thump — thump.

Love. For a little while I had a big love affair — along with a big news story.

I walk back into the Picaro Cafe. An Asian woman waves to me. I wave back. She runs up to me and she throws her arms around me. Hugs and kisses me. Dreams. A day dream. Yeah. But — sometimes the unreal becomes more real than the people who dwell upon "the reality" will ever know.

And... good-night... beautiful lady from Channel 5. Where ever you are.

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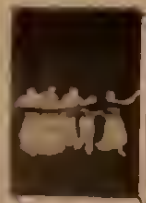
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MEDA vs. THE DUCT DEVILS

The crime-plagued Bartlett Street Garage, known by police and community residents to house a transient community above its ventilation ducts, is coming under new management, as Mission Economic Development Association won a contract on August 3 to "improve, operate and manage" the city-owned garage beginning in October.

"The garage has not proven effective in serving the demands of the local merchants," said MEDA director Roberto Barragan. The non-profit community development organization, working with the St. Francis parking company, will hire round-the-clock attendants to collect parking fares and maintain security. Barragan said MEDA also intends to "put in fencing, a security camera and a parking control system," at its own expense.

There are plenty of reasons to install the devices.

Since the beginning of the year, police and parking officials cite an increase in crime, structural damage, sanitation problems and liability hazards. In January, parking officials hired the Burns Security Company to patrol the garage from 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. five days a week in order to cut costs and provide a more constant security presence. Prior to that, the Parking Authority paid overtime wages to an off-duty detail of the San Francisco Police Department.

The garage is situated beneath a public housing complex, whose occupants are *not* blamed for the escalating problems.

"There has been an increase in automobile break-ins as a result of people living on the ventilators," said Mission Police Station CPOP unit

coordinator Bob Miller. "You're still going to get kids who do break-ins in the garage, but the fact that people can climb parking meters (*en route* to the overhead ventilation ducts) and see what is in the cars seems to encourage break-ins."

Miller said crime statistics for the specific locale were not currently available.

"All kinds of stuff goes on in there," said Miller. "You'll find prostitutes doing tricks, peoples shooting drugs, people dealing drugs. People sell stolen bikes. I don't know what the security guards are doing."

Miller charged, "From what I understand, the security guards are allowing (the squatters) to stay there. We've called the Parking Authority several times about this and I don't think there's much of an interest."

Kevin Haggarty, assistant director of the San Francisco Parking Authority, defended the decision to hire Burns. "In the past we have had problems. A police officer sat in the car and waited.

Although they could see the garage, it did not provide the presence that's most desirable with someone walking around. We got more for our money by having a guard patrolling."

Attempts to interview the Burns Security guard between the hours of 2:00 and 10:00 p.m. on several occasions in July were unsuccessful because the guard could not be found.

Meanwhile, crime is evident on the cars in the garage. On one early morning in late July, a reporter found the trunk locks drilled away or destroyed, in attempted break-ins, on 11 out of 46 cars parked in the garage overnight.

Another significant problem blamed



Bartlett Caverns Photo by Jason Albertson

on the transient community is structural damage to the facility. Haggarty said, "In order to get on top of the vents, they climb up on cars and grab sprinkler pipes to pull themselves up. They pull off sprinkler heads." The heads were installed in the garage to function in the event of a fire. Haggarty also stated that a water main was ruptured in June, affecting water supplies to the residents above the garage. Besides the wasted water, said Haggarty, "we've lost a number of light bulbs, the fluorescent tubes adjacent to the ventilation ducts." Transients break them off, he said, because "they like to sleep in the dark."

The Parking Authority is also responsible for sanitation at the garage.

"Our department has a contractor to clean up the garage and the tops of the vents seven times a week."

Forests of empty booze bottles stand atop the ventilations ducts, and are not often cleared. In late July, a car radio with the wires hanging out, an old mattress, decaying cardboard boxes, sleeping bags, a gym bag, assorted

garbage and hundreds of newspaper fragments were observed on top of the ventilation ducts, where the transients sleep.

The potential for liability against the garage also looms in the absence of a solution to the problem. "They've lit fires up there," said Austin, "right below a gas main, last year. When I found out about that, I hit the roof. It could have been a disaster."

A man who identified himself as only Carlos from Colombia stated that he lived above the ducts from time to time because he lived in Daly City and worked as a construction worker in Oakland. "The BART to Oakland is too far, so some days I just stay here," he said. He said he stayed with others in similar situations, and they never engaged in criminal activity. "We protect people's cars," he said.

The problem with transients in the garage, said Haggarty, is that "it creates an environment where people don't want to use the garage. Haggarty stated the the MEDA plan "is probably the best way to deal with the problem."

by Tara Kramer

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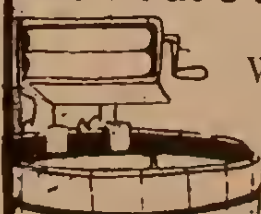


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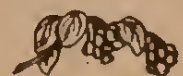


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ON THE HOME FRONT

by Kristy O'Rell

Statistics and theories behind homelessness have grown like bacteria, coagulated like sour milk, and done little to alleviate (let alone explain) why so many are on the streets like burnt offerings. We all know some of the reasons why the lady lugging seven bags of "stuff" continues to roam the neighborhood, but find it harder to rationalize why the articulate guy with the decent clothes is still asking for change. Drug addict, perhaps?

Here in San Francisco, educating ourselves, on ourselves, is easier than in other areas of the world.

On September 21-23, a unique weekend will take place involving various organizations, activists, politicians, artists, musicians, and the like, in solidarity with the following "Housing Now!" activities occurring nationwide on October 5th.

"Homefront" devised and conducted by the Coalition on Homelessness (COH) and numerous supporting organizations under its name, takes the weekend to convene discussion groups and interactive theatre on Saturday, and puts on an open concert at the Civic Center Plaza on Sunday, ending with a demonstration on Monday to address the neglect of the homeless.

Contrary to similar events in the past, Homefront is *not* a forum for braying "advocates" and political rhetoric; what makes Homefront unique is the importance and focus of the homeless themselves speaking out on their existence. Teresa Richards, a COH volunteer, is responsible for bringing together an impressive roster for Saturday's Night of Comedy to benefit Homefront's costs, as well as integrating poetry and music together for Sunday's event.

Richards points out, "We want to stress that Homefront isn't just something



where the public comes to be entertained and then goes home.

The main purpose for what goes on is to provide awareness *and* entertainment for those who have homes, but more importantly, for those who don't. Watching a great band is one thing, but it's interacting with the crowd around youth that will make it something to remember."

To be sure, the Coalition on Homelessness, which includes the Tenderloin Housing Clinic, the San Francisco Grey Panthers and many more, takes on what we all ultimately feel is at stake: the ability to find mutual understanding between those who have their roofs and those who do not. In this way, the complexities built around fear of losing those roofs (I know for myself, I've



come damn close) are stripped and hopefully the desire to fight for more beds in a shelter and more beans and rice for Food Not Bombs will burn.

Homefront will also lay out issues that put all of our mayoral candidates on the hot seat. Layered by well-intentioned programs gone awry, reassurances that have yet to be met, homelessness and poverty are platforms evaded more than addressed. At presstime, there has been no word of interest from any of the running candidates, nor statement of support for Homefront.

Politics aside, Homefront provides ample opportunities for anyone wanting to attend, and ... it's FREE!

Thousands are expected to flock to the Civic Center on Sunday, September 22, since performers include Michael Franti and Charlie Hunter, Five Year Plan, X-Tal, Lisa Paulty, and It Thing. The show starts rolling at 11:00 a.m. so don't work yourself over too hard Saturday night.

If you can't make it there, catch Maureen Brownsey, Scott Capurro, Liz Olsen and the improv troupe Global Riot, at the Service Employees International Union hall Saturday night for an evening of comedy between 8 and 10 p.m. Door cover will work on a sliding scale since it is an event for the homeless, but because it is also a benefit, donations of up to \$10 are being asked.

If you have any questions regarding Homefront, please contact Alex, Anthony or Jake at 415/346-3740.

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SAN FRANCISCO FREE EATS CHART SEPTEMBER 1 - OCTOBER 30, 1991

NAME, LOCATION, PHONE NUMBER	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	NOTES
ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH 1350 Waller St. (near Masonic) 621-1862	Bag lunch 12:30-12:45pm						Brunch 10:30-11:00am	
FOOD NOT BOMBS Golden Gate Park (by Haight & Stanyan) Civic Center Plaza (Polk St. between Grove & McAllister) 330-5030	12:00-1:00pm 6:00-7:00pm Civic Center Plaza	12:00-1:00pm 6:00-7:00pm Civic Center Plaza	12:00-1:00pm 6:00-7:00pm Civic Center Plaza	12:00-1:00pm 6:00-7:00pm Civic Center Plaza	12:00-1:00pm 6:00-7:00pm Civic Center Plaza	12:00-1:00pm 6:00-7:00pm Civic Center Plaza	12:00-1:00pm 6:00-7:00pm Civic Center Plaza	VEGETARIAN. Hearty soup & bread. Often free loaves of bread available. Lunch somewhat irregular, especially on weekends.
GLIDE MEMORIAL CHURCH 330 Ellis St. (at Taylor) 441-6501 (office), 771-2722 (crisis line)	8:00-9:00am 12:00-1:00pm	8:00-9:00am 12:00-1:00pm 4:00-5:30pm	8:00-9:00am 12:00-1:00pm 4:00-5:30pm	8:00-9:00am 12:00-1:00pm 4:00-5:30pm	8:00-9:00am 12:00-1:00pm 4:00-5:30pm	8:00-9:00am 12:00-1:00pm 4:00-5:30pm	8:00-9:00am 12:00-1:00pm	Bag dinners to go provided after lunch Sunday & Saturday.
HAIGHT-ASHBURY FOOD PROGRAM 1525 Waller St. (near Belvedere) 566-0366			Lunch 12:00-1:00pm	Lunch 12:00-1:00pm	Lunch 12:00-1:00pm	Lunch 12:00-1:00pm		VEGETARIAN alternative; volunteers welcome at 8:00am. Parents with kids eat at 11:30am.
HOSPITALITY HOUSE YOUTH CENTER 146 Leavenworth St. (near Turk) 776-2102		Lunch 12:00-1:00pm	Lunch 12:00-1:00pm	Lunch 12:00-1:00pm	Lunch 12:00-1:00pm	Lunch 12:30-1:00pm		Only for youths under 20. Sandwich, juice & fruit.
LOAVES & FISHES McAllister & Leavenworth, by U.N. Plaza fountain 563-1605				Breakfast 3:30-7:00am			Breakfast 3:30-7:00am	VEGETARIAN except some holidays. Soup or chili, bread, tea, vitamins, & pet food.
MARTIN DE PORRES 225 Potrero Ave. (near 16th St.) 552-0240	Brunch 9:00-10:30am	6:00-7:30am	6:00-7:30am 12:00-3:00pm	6:00-7:30am 12:00-3:00pm	6:00-7:30am 12:00-3:00pm	6:00-7:30am 12:00-3:00pm	Lunch 12:00-3:00pm	VEGETARIAN alternative Wed. & Fri. Breakfast: oatmeal & coffee. Lunch: a hearty soup.
MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY 1330 4th St. (at 3rd St.) 821-9687	Dinner 5:00-6:30pm	Dinner 5:00-6:30pm	Dinner 5:00-6:30pm	Dinner 5:00-6:30pm	Dinner 5:00-6:30pm	Dinner 5:00-6:30pm	Dinner 5:00-6:30pm	Short prayer before meals; mass on special occasions. Soup & sandwiches.
NEIGHBORHOOD BAPTIST CHURCH 608 Hayes St. (near Laguna) 621-8748							Lunch every last Sat. 12:00-2:00pm	
NINETEENTH AVE. BAPTIST CHURCH U.N. Plaza in front of old Federal Building (50 Hyde St.) 564-7721							Dinner every fourth Saturday 4:30-5:00pm	Soup, bread & fruit.
PRIMERA IGLESIA BAUTISTA DEL SUR 976 South Van Ness Ave. (near 21st St.) 647-1000	Breakfast every first Sunday 8:00-9:00am							A full breakfast.
ST. ANTHONY'S DINING ROOM 45 Jones St. (near Golden Gate) 241-2600	Lunch 10am-12:30pm	Lunch 10am-12:30pm	Lunch 10am-12:30pm	Lunch 10am-12:30pm	Lunch 10am-12:30pm	Lunch 10am-12:30pm	Lunch 10am-12:30pm	Showers, laundry, haircuts & other services available. Call 241-2688.
ST. JOHN'S AFRICAN ORTHODOX (ONE MIND TEMPLE) 351 Divisadero St. (near Oak) 621-4054	Lunch 3:30-4:30pm	Lunch 2:30-3:30pm		Lunch 12:00-1:00pm				VEGETARIAN. Sun & Mon: Beans, rice, vegetables, salad, fruit, & bread. Wed: Noodle soup & bread.
ST. PETER & PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH 666 Filbert St. (off Washington Square)	4:00-5:00pm	4:00-5:00pm	4:00-5:00pm	4:00-5:00pm	4:00-5:00pm	4:00-5:00pm	4:00-5:00pm	"A simple sandwich for people of North Beach."
THIRD BAPTIST CHURCH 1399 McAllister St. (near Pierce) 923-0259					Lunch 12:30-1:30pm			Meat entree, vegetables, salad & dessert.
TRUE HOPE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST 950 Gilman Ave. (near Griffith) 822-5626			Lunch 12:00-1:00pm					Guests asked to attend sermon 12:00-12:45; meal at 12:50. Meal, vegetables, bread & dessert.
UNITED COUNCIL OF HUMAN SERVICES At Hospitality House, 146 Leavenworth (near Turk) 822-5067							Dinner 4:00-6:00pm	Temporarily at Hospitality House. Meat entree with vegetables.

We'd like your corrections, comments, or additions for our next bimonthly update. Please call 648-3222.

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A NEW MISSION POST OFFICE?

by Christian Ettinger

If you need a mailbox, a key made, copies duplicated, a package sent or just want to talk to someone about Peru, see aspiring postman Victor Ibarra. Maybe he can help you plan a trip through the Andes.

Ibarra plans to help his customers and his neighborhood by transforming his Mail box/packaging store, "Mail Carrier Etc." on 21st near Valencia into a bona fide Post Office. Victor is currently pleading his case to the Postmaster General.

Victor came to the United States from Lima, Peru in the fall of '88 because his advancement in a Peruvian banking job was limited and he hoped there was more opportunity here. After raising some money from a restaurant he operated in Peru and selling a car, he decided to open a business in the U.S. of A. The question was - what kind of business?

Ibarra witnessed the kind of business a mail box/packaging store in the Richmond district at Geary and 4th Avenue did after subcontracting from the Post Office. He opened his store last June offering the services of faxing, mail boxes, office supplies, shipping and key making, with the intention of eventually turning the store into a post office.

If Ibarra succeeds in converting his store into a Post Office, his will be only the third Mail Box store in San Francisco to do so. The Postmaster General transformed the store on 4th and Geary into a post office in 1989 because the original post office was damaged in the earthquake. Ibarra asked the Postmaster if he, too, could turn his store into a Post Office. The Postmaster said he needed to make a written request showing that the Mission, in fact, needs another Post Office.

Toward this end, Ibarra is aggressively collecting signatures from neighborhood residents requesting another post office and taking photos documenting the long lines at Station C at South Van Ness and 23rd. Part of his motivation in opening a Post Office is the thirty minute lines he himself endures at the Mission Post Office.

The Mission Post Office is so overused because of the neighborhood's large immigrant population who frequently send and receive articles from their home countries; Mexico, El Salvador and Nicaragua. Beyond this, Ibarra said many of the people working at this post office do not speak Spanish which makes going to the post office a frustrating experience for many newly arrived immigrants.

By converting his business into a post

Photo by Jason Albertson



Victor Ibarra

office, Ibarra says not only will he usher in more customers, he'll shorten the lines at the South Van Ness station and bring in a higher quality service for the Mission's Spanish-speaking community.

Business is picking up every day. He

expects a lot more business around Christmas when many in the neighborhood will want to send packages. But, he says, the real key to establishing his business will be if he obtains the Postmaster General's blessing.

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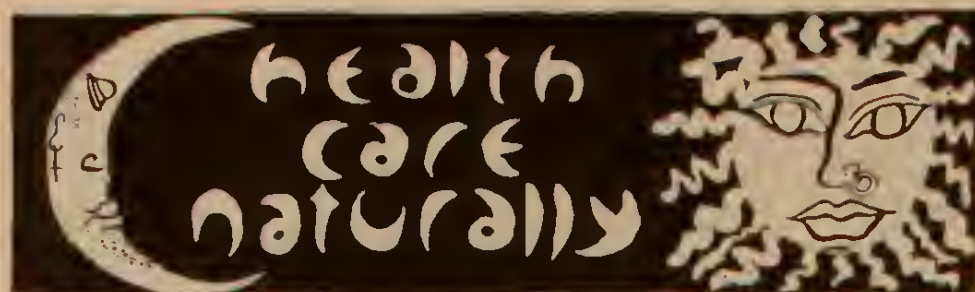
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by Lisa Berkelhammer

If you attended grammar school in the last four decades your classroom displayed the American flag, the letters of the alphabet and the United States Department of Agriculture nutrition chart illustrating the four basic food groups. From first grade, American schoolchildren have been taught that several servings daily of meat, dairy, fruit, vegetables, bread and cereals are essential to a healthy diet, as illustrated on the food wheel chart.

For the last three years the USDA has been developing an updated chart, the "Eating Right Pyramid". The pyramid has four levels, showing cereals and grains at the base, fruits and vegetables on the second level, dairy and meat at the third, and fats, oils and sweets at the top. Although the chart does not alter the recommended number of daily servings of each food group found in the 1950's food wheel, it does provide a visual hint as to the importance of grains, fruits and vegetables in a healthy diet, while diminishing the focus on meat, dairy and eggs.

The chart is an important beginning of an educational campaign to reverse the deeply held beliefs Americans hold about the irrevocable necessity of meat and dairy in a healthy diet. (The old food wheel is in large part responsible for the depth and tenacity of those beliefs.) Health professionals have lobbied long and hard for these changes to begin.

In April of this year, the USDA announced the publication of the Eating Right Pyramid. Within 24 hours of the announcement, Edward Madigan, Secretary of Agriculture, cancelled its release, claiming that complaints had been made that the pyramid was confusing and had not been tested on children and might be misunderstood by them and others with little education.

Other officials at the USDA and health professionals angrily stated that the real

reason for the withdrawal of the chart was pressure from meat and dairy producers who see it as a threat to their industries. One group of producers, the National Cattlemen's Association, met with Secretary Madigan on April 15th.

An anonymous USDA official stated that "Up until the cattlemen came to their meeting with the Secretary, the Eating Right Pyramid was being released."

The USDA finds itself in an uncomfortable position as a Federal agency which is responsible for educating the public about nutrition while also representing agribusiness. The pyramid chart is hardly a revolutionary statement, recommending 2-3 servings daily of meat and dairy, despite recently published and highly respected studies by Cornell University which clearly conclude that a vegetarian diet is the most health supportive. As long as the USDA must answer to the meat and dairy producers, it cannot truly and fully be a guardian of the health of the American people.

the Cattlemen have had their way for the moment. They continue selling "Beef - real food for real people". Egg and dairy producers spend millions promoting their high fat products. School children eat hot dogs and hamburgers in government subsidized lunch programs. Studies find that the nation's children have clogged arteries before they become teenagers. Obituary pages of our newspapers are scattered with death notices of men in their forties and fifties who have died of heart disease. One out of every ten women will develop breast cancer. The USDA abandoned the Eating Right Pyramid. Has it also abandoned the American people?

Lisa Berkelhammer, L.Ac., is a State and Nationally Licensed Acupuncturist/herbalist and Nutrition Consultant. She maintains a private practice on Russian Hill. For further information call 474-0540.

THE SPINAL COLUMNIST



by Dr. Craig Maurer

Welcome to the second article in my series, the Spinal Column. Last issue, we touched on some of chiropractic's history. This time, I'd like to talk about something in chiropractic that we refer to as Innate Intelligence. This is the label we have given to the healing force, or power, within each of us. It's the same force or power that had the Intelligence to create life from two cells, the sperm and the ovum. It's the same power that knows how to convert what you ate for lunch into new and healthy tissue cells, to heal wounds and broken bones.

In chiropractic, we feel that this "Innate Intelligence" is different from "Educated Intelligence", which we accumulate after birth. (Could your "educated self" create life?) Every minute, 2.5 million new red blood cells to replace sick and dying ones. Every six months, we have a totally new set of muscles, and every seven years a brand new set of organs! Can "Educated Intelligence" create this?

I don't know about you, but if I had a person come into my office and ask me to mend a broken bone or heal a wound, I'd be lost. I'm glad there is a healing force in the body, or I'd be out of business! It's that "Something Special" that all physicians work with. Ever watch a doctor show on television, and when all else has failed, they always say: "It's in the hands of God now..." In chiropractic, we say the exact same thing, only we say it in the very beginning, instead.

So, with this beautiful "Innate" healing force working inside each one of us, why do we get sick? In chiropractic, we believe that the body's own healing force can be interfered with. We call these Vertebral Subluxations. This is a minor misalignment of a vertebra, or spinal column bone, that can irritate nerves where they exit the spinal cord. You see,

the spinal column is made up of individual segments stacked up on each other, and the spinal cord (which is actually an extension of the brain) travels down through the middle of all these bony segments to exit the nerve trunk at each level. The brain and spinal column are also called the Central Nervous System. In science, it is a widely accepted fact that the nervous system is the Master Control for the body, responsible for regulating all other systems.

Now you can see how important it is for the brain and body to communicate without interference. If nerves are irritated or interfered with, there will be less than 100% healthy communication between the brain and body.

Let's look at this some more: The vital link between the brain and the body is...? That's right! The spinal cord. If we cut or sever that connection, what happens? That's right: Paralysis. When less than a total loss of communication occurs, that's a vertebral subluxation. Let's say the stomach, for example, has a partial loss of communication. It could reproduce cells improperly or secrete too much or too little acid. This could possibly result in an ulcer or gastritis. Why, if we replace our organs every seven years, do we continue to have chronic problems like ulcers or asthma? Year after year? In chiropractic, we look at the vital connection, to see if there's proper communication. If a person was functioning perfectly, they wouldn't be sick. I believe that if a person is sick, he will then have symptoms; and not that if a person has symptoms, then he becomes sick. Most think that if they have no symptoms (pain, fever, cramps, poor sleep, etc.) they must be well.

Unfortunately, did you know that one for the first symptoms of heart disease is a fatal heart attack? So often, when we hear of someone passing away from one, we say, "How can this be? He was soooo healthy..."

I ask you, if he was so healthy, do you suppose something wasn't functioning right all along, and final circumstances led to this fatal event?

I think it's safe to say that we would all be healthier if we explored more than just symptoms. This is why physicians emphasize routine examinations, cholesterol screenings and such. Just as vitally important is the routine check-up of the spine, because it links the whole body - from the organs to the cells.

MARC S. JANOWITZ Attorney

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THE WOMEN'S FOUNDATION

by Jacqueline Elizabeth Letalien

Sometimes it's difficult to write this column. One difficulty is keeping myself from volunteering for every organization I highlight. The work done by these groups is vital to the well being of women and the planet. There is so much work to be done. Another difficulty is witnessing the injustice of the way in which women are grossly neglected.

The grit that currently feeds my irritation is a fact I learned when I recently visited the Women's Foundation: "Dear Sweeties, only 4 of (national) foundation money goes to women..." Yes, you read that correctly — a paltry four percent. You may well ask "so nu!" More money is spent on bombers than on battered women's shelters. More money is given to medical research for men than women and children. We know that most starving, unacknowledged artists are women. Mothers of crack babies are jailed for child neglect while bankers and CEOs are unindicted for their economic neglect of women and children. So nu!

The flyer quote goes on to say: "Well, that just doesn't cut it, so we'll have to do it ourselves, just like always." It's part of women's cultural gender experience to come together to support each other at times of birth, trouble, celebration. The Women's Foundation helps to birth and support organizations encouraging and helping women to move from times of

trouble toward the days of celebration. The Foundation determines the disbursement of their grants by targeting population rather than issues. The people targeted are women and children. This recognizes that issues as they appear and change always have a special cause and effect with women. For example, many women are homeless because they are battered. Or, homeless women quite often have the special circumstance of being responsible for children.

Once women's organizations and special projects are helped by the Women's Foundation an important step is taken to get more funding because of improved self esteem, demystification of the grant application process and a sound reference from their first grant award. Women also learn about managing their own money and empowering themselves. The Foundation also offers a Technical Assistance workshops to provide guidance in their application/award process and an opportunity for networking. In addition to the workshops there are varied program offerings: Managing Inherited Wealth to foster philanthropy and social responsibility; Women's Initiative for Self-Employment to help low and moderate income women start small businesses; and National Network of Women's funds to share information and to network with 40 women's funds in the country. The Foundation also offers advice in general on grants and foundations, as their time permits.

And, these women are very busy. A small core staff and over a hundred volunteers work thousands of hours to raise funds for the Foundation. Women's work is always big and never done; theirs is no exception. They cover 45 counties from San Luis Obispo to California's northern borders. They spend countless hours of outreach to urban enclaves as well as rural villages. And of course, there's the hard task of reviewing and choosing among the applications of many deserving women's organizations and special projects.

Since their beginning in 1980, \$900,000 worth of grants have been awarded to 250 organizations. Targeting women as recipients encompasses an amazing array of diversity of issues and purposes. A sampling of awardees proudly exemplifies this: Brava! for Women in the Arts promotes women artists and feminist values in the arts; Cambodian Women's Association serves homebound, low income Cambodian refugee women; Girls Club of Western

Contra Costa conducts a mentoring, tutoring program to assist African American girls; California Prostitutes Education Project is an AIDS/drug-use education, prevention service for current and former sex workers; Migrant Farmworkers Rights Project, Options for Women Over Forty, Future Educational Films, Patients' Rights Advocacy Services, orchid Women's recovery Center; Community Resources for Independent Living for people with disabilities.

Do women a well deserved favor — to apply, seek advice or donate your money or time contact the Women's Foundation in the Women's Building at 3543 18th Street (431-1290).

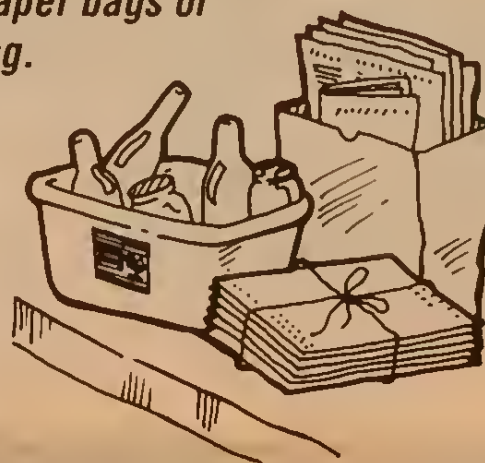
Thanks to Maria Gonzales, Development Manager for forty-five minutes of enthusiastic information sharing about the Foundation's work.



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MISSION DISTRICT CALENDAR

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Existential Monochrome - "portraits of world leaders in a repetitive format" in a mixed media installation by Armando Rascon with Melissa Hoffs' "PSY/DEFECT V:JOB" at Southern Exposure Gallery, 401 Alabama at 17th Street. Artists' reception 6 - 8 PM, artists' talk Saturday, 4:30 PM, both free. Installation continued through October 5th, 863-2141.

Local 4 - a showcase for artists in dance, theater and new performance sponsored by Footwork, 3221 22nd at Mission, 8:30 PM, also 7th. \$7, 824-5044.

The Disciples of James Dean - have their 20th anniversary reunion in "Come Back to the 5 and Dime Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean" Fridays and Saturdays through 14th at Miz Brown's, 2565 Mission. 8 PM, \$10, 921-2769.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Honrage to Thurston Howell - model yacht show at Spreckels Lake in Golden Gate Park also features fully operational six and nine foot submarines and military aircraft carriers, river boats and other small, small craft. 10 AM to 1 PM, also 8th. Membership in the Model Yacht Club is a \$5 initiation fee and \$2 dues per month, call 386-1037.

Scopitony - pre-MTV music on films... Nat King Cole, Liberace, Butthole Surfers, Grateful Dead and the Ice-T and Karen Finley of the 50s, Louis Prima and Keely Smith. Plus live performance by The Two Mugs and FREE BEER! ATA, 992 Valencia, 8:30 PM, \$5.

Home Visit - world premiere of Lauren Cutler's play about a lesbian's interaction with her family during her father's life-threatening illness through Oct. 12th Wednesdays through Sundays at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th Street. 8 PM, \$11-20, 861-5079.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Cabaret Culliope - a Sunday afternoon gala extravaganza of theater music featuring Archy the cockroach and a cast of seductive and raucous felines in the back alley opera "Archy and Mehitabel" plus much more at Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez, 2 PM. Tickets \$7.50 - \$10, 252-5885.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Chuck Prophet & Stephanie Finch - rip it up at the Paradise Lounge, 11th and Folsom with Blue Runners and, upstairs, The Filinger and Campilongo Duo. Probably free, 621-1191.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Feminism/Postmodernism - feminist Jackie Thomason deconstructs deconstructionism and the book by Linda Nicholson, talk sponsored by Radical Women, 523A Valencia. Phone 864-1278 for location and time.

Assassins of God - do a little deconstruction of their own as part of the Creature Feature series at Club O, 11th and Folsom with Blister and Scarecrow. 9:30 PM, \$4.

Will The Real Bubbles La'Tour Please Stand Up - premiere of a play written and performed by formerly homeless tenants of the South Park Hotel in a benefit for same at the Paradise Lounge, 11th and Folsom, 8:30 PM.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

The Social Aesthetic - panel discussion with artists and lawyers including Tony Serra on reproductive rights, civil liberties and the media at Southern Exposure, 401 Alabama, 7 PM. Admission \$3-4, 863-2141.

Next Exit - a multimedia autobiography of and by Dana Atchley, the Colorado Spaceman calling back to the time of the Lone Ranger and the Shadow at his performance studio, 3435

Army #221. Thursdays through Sundays, \$7-9, through October 13th, call 285-8955 for times and reservations.

Gay Shuttle at 21st and Valencia - What to do... party with Deneuve and the women of SF's hot new lesbian magazine at Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia (821-4675), escape to Acapulco and Moscow at a panel discussion at Modern Times, 968 Valencia (282-9246 or just stand confused and vacillating in the middle of the street? Decisions, Decisions!

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Truly weird religious films - at Artist Television Access, Valencia near 20th, plus UFO true believers, campus morality and other ludicrous theological celluloid. 8:30 PM, \$4.

Duplex Planet - readings from David Greenberger's cult magazine for residents of the nursing home where he works including the elderly resident "record reviewer". The Marsh at Cafe Beano, 878 Valencia, 10:30 PM. Admission \$4, info 558-8112.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Shadows in the City - rebel Cossack cinema by Ari Roussimoff starring Jack Smith, Annie Sprinkle, Taylor Mead, Emile deAntonio and introducing Madonna Chavez. Highly praised by Tattoo Gazette and Outlaw Biker Magazine, another review calls it "kind of like Fantasia with human scum". ATA, 992 Valencia at 8:30 but get there early.

Bobbie McGee Deals Out Hnrsh, Tardy Justice - The Bay Area Hearing of the Commission of Inquiry for the International War Crimes Tribunal hears testimony on Middle East war crimes with Ramsey Clark, Kris Kristofferson and others at Mission High School, 18th and Dolores. Registration at high noon, rally at 7:30 PM, \$5-10, 821-6545.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Transforming Muse - poetry by Leslie Simon and Claire Blotter at Modern Times "delves deeply into the spiritual and social aspects of women's lives". 968 Valencia, 7 PM, Donation collected (282-9246).

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Performance Art Under Attack - would that Rev. Wildmon, Jesse Helms and Clarence Thomas storm a backroom cabaret with their pitchforks and Bibles but, no, it's just one more panel discussion with a bunch of artists wrestling with the obvious. Anyway, it's at Theater Artaud, 450 Florida, 8 PM and it will set you back \$8.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Voodoo Gearshift - headlining a Creature Feature show at Club O, 11th and Folsom with special guests. 9:30 PM, \$4.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Andrea Dworkin - author of feminist classics "Woman Hating", "Right-Wing Women" and "Mercy" at Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia, 8 PM. Donation \$3-10, 821-4675.

Romping Through The Swamp - the legendary Dave Van Ronk with his songs of Vietnam and whatever else in a rare Bay Area performance at the Paradise Lounge, 11th and Folsom. Plus the Peckercrooks and Bad Old Boys, 10 PM, 621-1911.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Puerta a Puerta - the ongoing multi-cultural collaboration between Galeria de la Raza, Mission Cultural Center and Artists' Television

Access holds a "Community Speak Out" where everyone's invited to speak out on what's right and what's wrong with Mission culture at 2857 24th Street, 7 PM (826-8009).

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by Robert Cole and Lowell Williams

ALMANAC: Jupiter will leave Leo and enter Virgo on September 11 at 11:02 PM. This will effectively shift the Jupiterian energies from humor and light to precision and detail. The new tone of concern for fixing up the problems of our family and community will initiate a trend which will last for the coming year. Also the Equinox comes on September 23 when the alignment of the Earth and the Sun produces one of the bi-annual times when day and night are equal all over the planet. It is time for the Harvest to begin.

ARIES (MAR 21 - APR 19): You must schedule important changes in your health plan this month. Your living space and your work schedule are too strenuous; tension and pressure from the outside are wreaking havoc on the inside. Pay close attention to strange sensation or painful feelings. Proper attention to

health matters right now will spare you from complications in the year ahead.

TAURUS (APR 20 - MAY 20): An intense creative rumbling deep inside your soul is going to shake down the structures of old responsibility this month. An artistic earthquake is coming to destroy the boring existence into which you have hardened. Struggle with your past in order to release your future. You are on the verge of creating a masterpiece. And admit to friends that you cannot help them with their problems any more. Rescue thyself.

GEMINI (MAY 21 - JUN 20): An extraordinary variety of old friends and strange relatives will show up on your doorstep this month; everyone seems to be crowding into your little living space looking for love and protection. You will have to decide how much to help and who among them is destined for period of chronic homelessness. You have only so

much to give; knowing those limits is crucial this month.

CANCER (JUN 21 - JUL 22): Scraping the bottom of the barrel is difficult for everyone else but you this month. For some unexplainable reason, you and all your friends use paltry resources to survive in this dog-eat-dog world. The economic situation on a grand scale is just too frightening, and personal problems are dwarfed by the conditions of those in really dire straits. Pinch what pennies you have; use things until they fall apart. Together you'll survive.

LEO (JUL 23 - AUG 22): You'll hear the same old excuse a million times this month: "Well, we just don't have the money!" Bull- pucky! Those you ask really do have the money, and they have a lot more money than you can imagine. They've just found a certain pleasure in having others beg from them. Don't lower yourself to such panhandling from these perverts. Make your demands loud and clear, and keep at them until they give in. When money counts, no need to be nice.

VIRGO (AUG 23 - SEP 22): Jupiter's transit into your sign this month signals a massive expansion in your personality. On the one hand, your ego will receive the attention it sadly deserves; on the other hand, your waistline could bulge in the most astonishing way. Release concerns about everyone else, and go wild on your own behalf. You've saved as much of the world as you can.

Now it's time to start taking excellent care of yourself.

LIBRA (SEP 23 - OCT 22): You will be run through a series of tests this month ad, if you've ben paying attention to the cosmic messages you've received, you'll pass all of them with flying colors. In any ease, be prepared to endure a lot of cleansing and purifying this month. The toxins of old bad habits have accumulated and could get out of control if you fail to respond. Fear swept under the carpets of the past must be eliminated now.

SCORPIO (OCT 23 - NOV 22): The poignant meaning of life surrounds you this month. You will feel like a saint working amidst the depraved. The elevation of your magical powers to heights beyond all expeetation shoves you into situations where death, despair, pain and poverty are everywhere. Taking your shining light into the darkness and bring your blessing to the sad ones. But, for goodness sake, don't forget how to get yourself out of this situation by month's end.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV 23 - DEC 21): An incredible feeling of success will overcome you this month. Plans and goals which you've been working toward for the past twelve years are actually manifesting all around you. The rich rewards of leading a good life are falling into your lap like juicy, ripe plums from the tree. In this situation, the hum-drum responsibilities of the household lose importance. You mean a super-star is supposed to make his/her own bed in the morning?

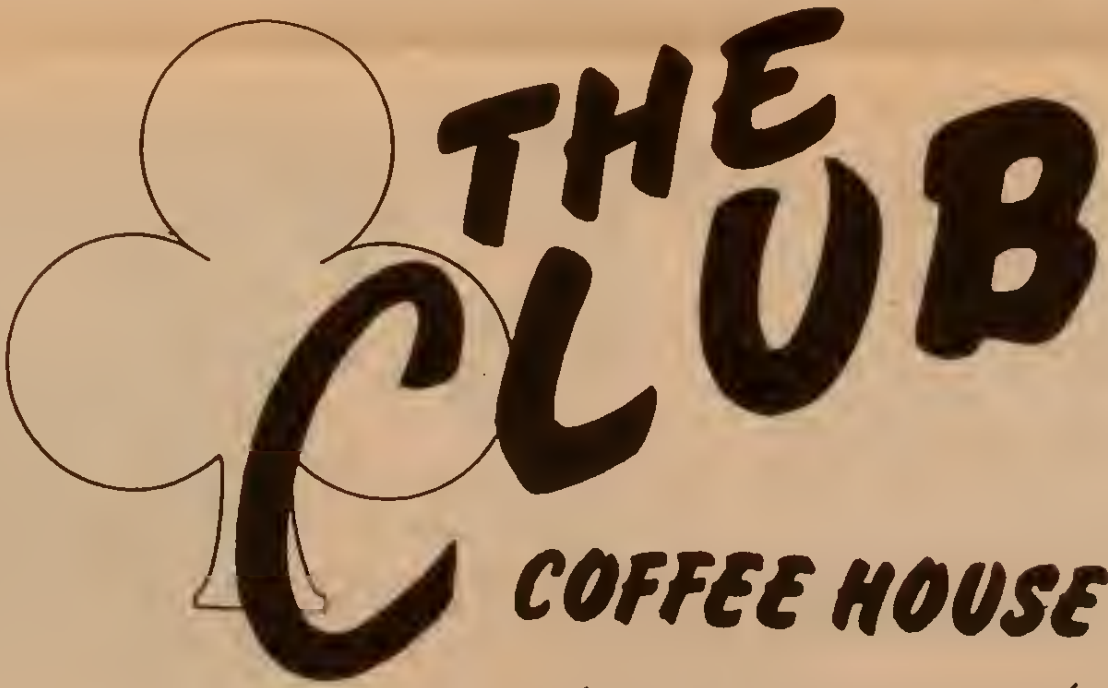
CAPRICORN (DEC 22 - JAN 19): Feeling of great religious superiority will come to you this month as you complete complicated training programs and mediation techniques. Your pursuit of true wisdom has brought you to the point of total and absolute self-justification. While you ponder the world as it should be, your best friends are confused and distraught by the world the way it is.

AQUARIUS (JAN 20 - FEB 18): The power and the pressure of your sex magic takes over this month; none of the usual day-to-day responsibilities are important when you get this turned on. Apparently there's some very special circling around you with his/her lustful desires. In most eases, it takes two to get so high on coital pleasure. Creating little children must not be the outeome of your satisfaction; protect yourself with all the necessary methods.

PISCES (FEB 19 - MAR 20): Set aside your desires and wishes and let your best friend have complete eontrol of the situation this month. Slip into the lazy role of being a follower and surrender all personal responsibility from the outcome. If it turns out fabulous, your lover deserves great thanks; if it turns out to be a dud, you can blame him/her for everything. Your willingness to let someone else have control is erucial in the next year.

For more information about astrology and personal readings, write to Robert Cole, P.O. Box 884561, 94188.

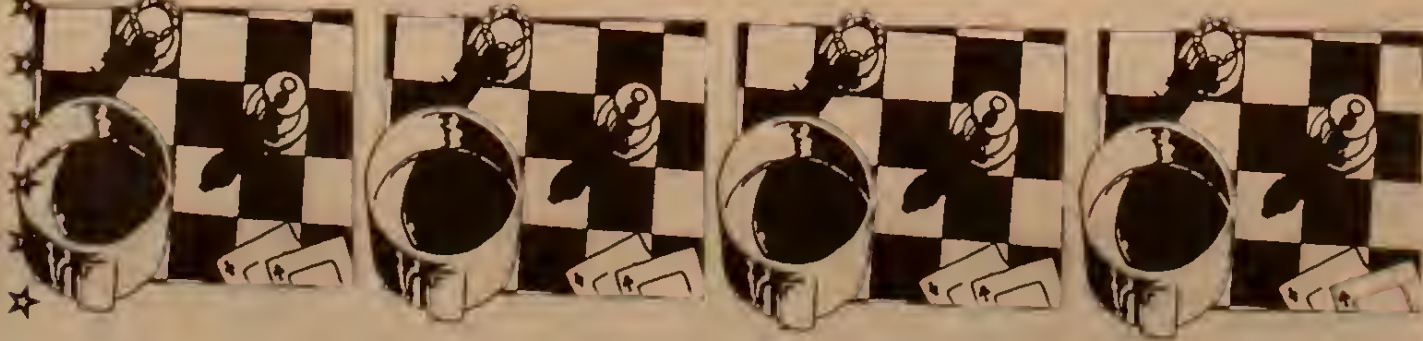
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REDBEAT

by Frank Deadbeat

Here we go again over the barricades. Members of the so-called State Committee through the brick scrap metal barricades and our boys are scrambling for ratings. "The coup in Moscow, fear and trembling brought to you by — " is that what they're fighting for over the barricades?

"We fight for democracy!"

"For bread!"

"For liberty!"

"And sausage for all!"

You and I on the barricades. Running through the wet, black streets of a Zhivago dawn. Under a corrugated sky, under the guns, over the barricades. Scrambling the message holding hands around the jamming tower, passed around a flask from my rucksack and our breath came white as winter. Through eyes of an old woman, we saw winter hunched behind the barricades again, again.

And there I was worried about the rent.

Intoxicated by the screens of history (extemporaneously written this side of the barricades) while astral x-ray (special cable channel 666) shines through the surface of the tv analyst showing blood on the barricades — the New World Odor like a sausage factory in Minsk.

Our President, when reached for comment (wiping up the yolk with half a Jimmy Dean held like a treaty pen): "These borscht boys just don't know how to keep their people happy! No class, no subtlety to 'em... guess that's what a lifelong power jones'll do to you if threatened with a 'phasing out' heh heh..."

Imagining the whole thing going up

like shithouse in a Kansas twister — "makes our side look pretty good by comparison not to mention Gorby to kick around anymore — lucky we've allowed you forty hour week and color TV, never mind the breadlines, those people don't vote anyway — censor that, will you Marlin?"

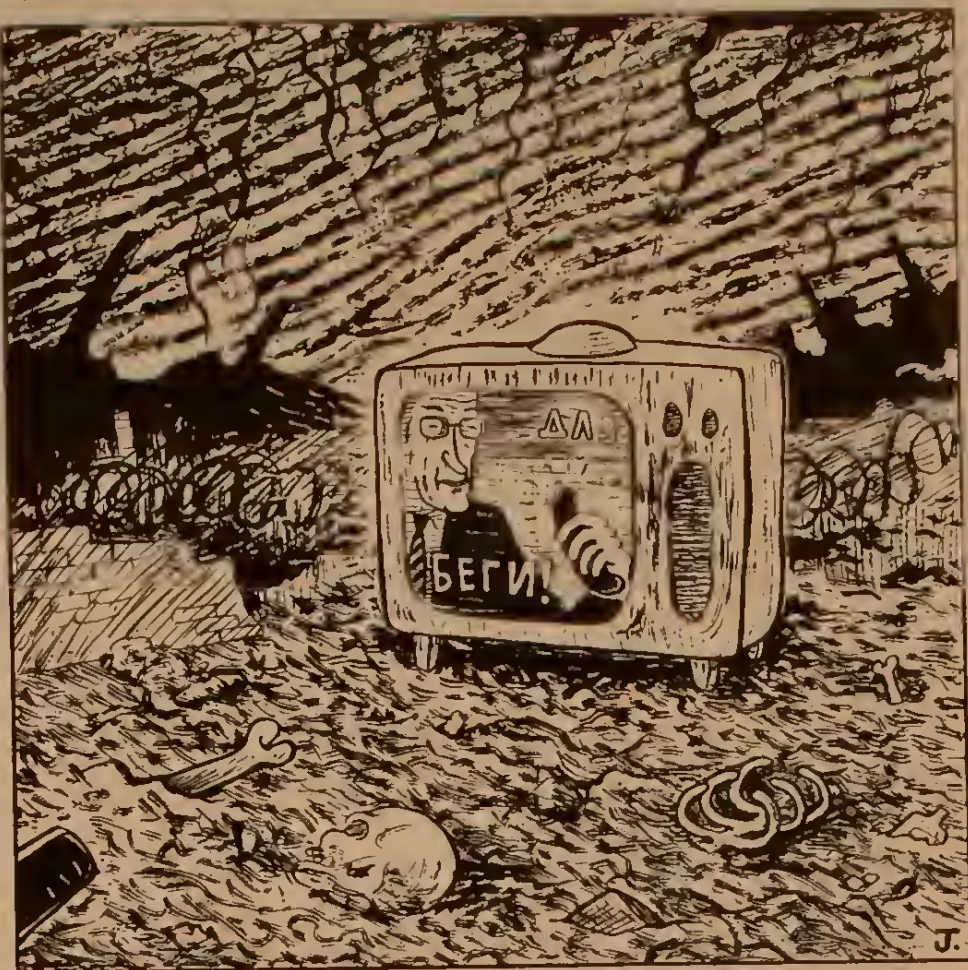
An empty stomach left by soviet collapse makes George the leader of the world's greatest military/industrial power bar none, so he allows himself a double dose in the Lincoln bedroom — flopping uncontrollably and pissing in Brooks Brothers pants, in eestae of vacuum power fix appoints a gibbon to Supreme Court, sends all 'chemical subversives who would undermine our way of life, our national security a la borscht boys' off to island concentration camps, an archipelago long built just waiting for the word I'm sure...

The analyst euts in: "A different kind of animal we have here, not dependent on the airwaves for approval rating, no strings attached... a bureaueratic tapeworm never easily got rid of, doesn't even need a proper head. Pure tube, pure gut, pure need."

"For bread?"

"For power."

"Over the jagged steel barricades without suffering a cut, like an army of grey slugs over the barricades. No skeletons to these boys despite their talk of 'central committees'. Bone shops all empty over there — old Stalin models rusted in the fields won't hold up long under a Zhivago dawn — dismantled frames of reference for the barricades — dissolved their ideoskeletal frameworks in an acid bath of pure corrosive need, a power jones, their GNP all spent on tanks and exoskeletons for to break through



these barricades erected by such hooligans and counter-revolutionaries, da?"

Da, da. Through eyes of a young soldier white breath of the coming winter over the barricades — unfurled like a banner.

"For the New World Breadbox, da?"

"Nyet, bigger."

"For democracy?"

"For sausage held like a treaty pen."

"For Reebok, KFC, Nintendo?"

"Sausage smell in the Zhivago dawn, a flash over the city and flesh hangs from the barricades."

"For New World Odor all join hands around the jamming tower?"

"Da, da. Under corrugated dawn of freedom line we'll build new towers, bigger, better. More subtle, da. Why should our suffering be ratings coup for other

network? Why our blood be money of a different color, bread and sausages in other hands?"

"We make our own network, da?"

"Over the barricades!"

"For freedom! Soon we watch it all on instant replay."

"Twenty-one inch Sony."

"Kick a beggar on the church steps."

"On my way to light a candle for my brother dead on the barricades 8-20-91 and this drunken hooligan gets in my way liable to drool pus all over my new Brooks Brothers suit damn right I kicked him."

"On your way to church?"

Bells are ringing on the Square, over the barricades. All upturned faces follow birds up to the corrugated dawn/dusk dialectic of a tightly lidded sky.

Black mask: "Open fire."

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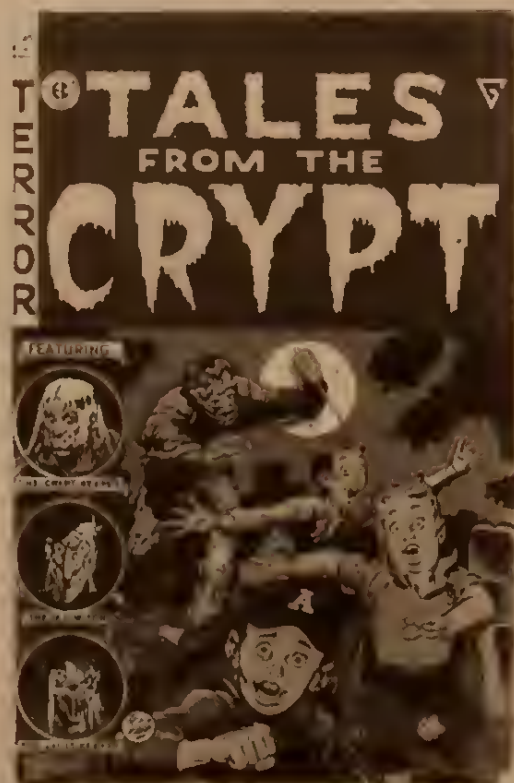
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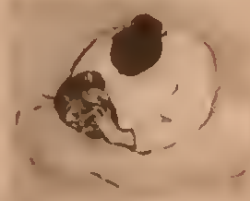
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